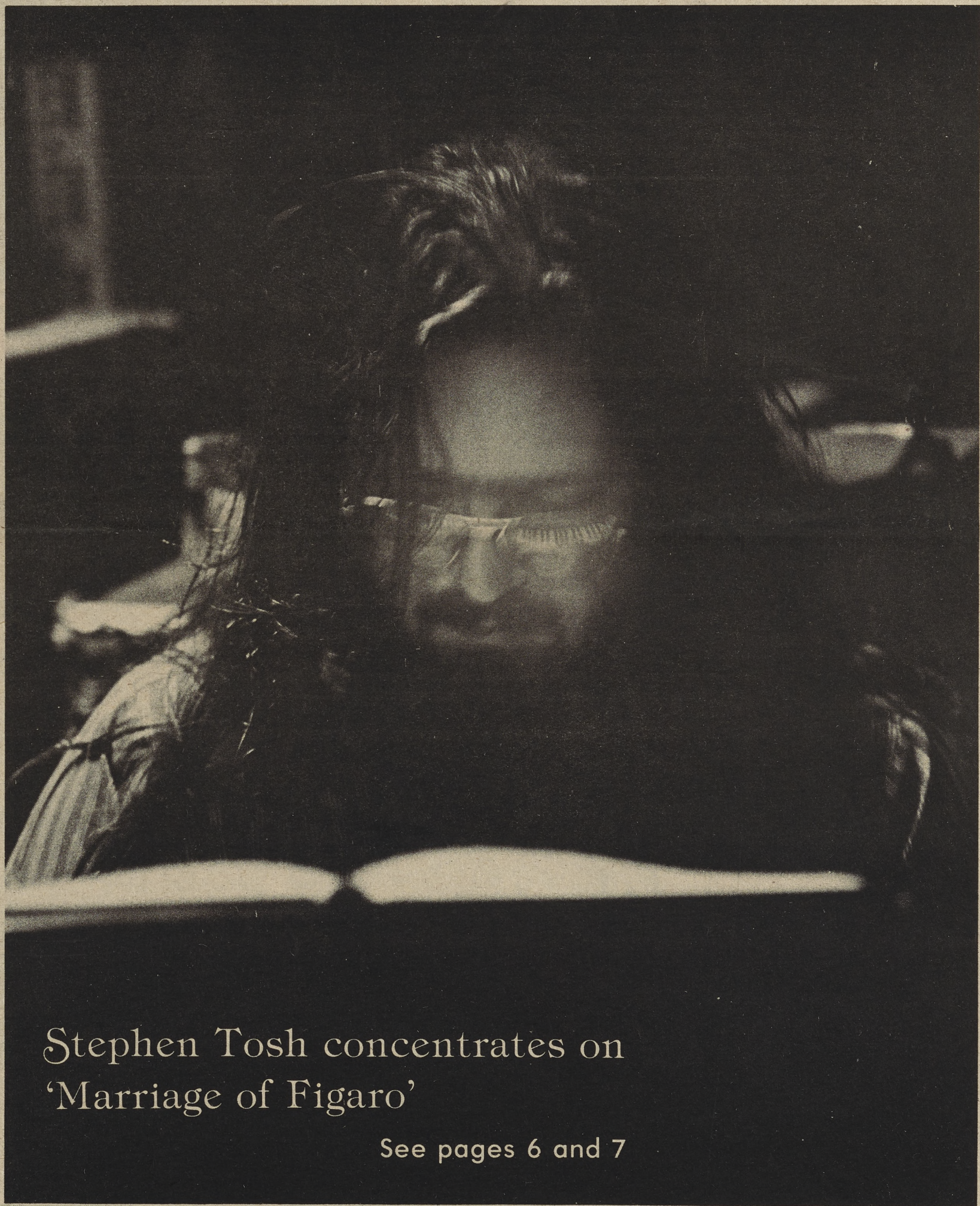


carmel valley
outlook
15¢ outside carmel valley dec. 25, 1975



Stephen Tosh concentrates on
'Marriage of Figaro'

See pages 6 and 7

editor's note

We mark the passage of our lives with celebrations large and small. I have never really noted New Year's Eve. Since I was 14, it meant a bottle of Dr. Pepper with my mother and Guy Lombardo on the television set, until last year when, separated by distance I drank my Dr. Pepper alone and watched the lighted ball descend at Times Square in solitude.

Christmas has always been the occasion most often committed to my diary. The first I remember was in France, an Army dependents' party where I was terrified by that huge man all in red and had to be carried screaming from the auditorium to receive my gift, now forgotten, in the silence of the theatre's "Cry Room." Mother was quick to point out that my younger sister was not the least bit afraid of Santa — of course, she wasn't — at three months, she probably couldn't even focus on the jolly old elf! She also got the better gift, a lovely pink vinyl stuffed lamb with blue spots on its back. That I remember.

I remember cloud covered Christmases in southeast Missouri where the three of us, an older brother, the formerly mentioned younger sister and myself, would sit at the living room window waiting for it to snow. In southeast Missouri, it didn't snow for Christmas — it rained. At best, there would be a glittering ice storm, which didn't necessarily mean the schools were closed.

The Christmas my father was in Korea and we were alone in a rural town is lost to my memory, perhaps overshadowed by his return in spring with trunks and trunks of gifts from the Orient. (I was reading horrible stuff by then and had a vivid imagination. My father had not been building bridges in South Korea, but taking Oriental chieftains gifts from the west, like Marco Polo.)

There were three velvet scrolls, painted with scenes from Japan. Mine was a white pagoda with fog-shrouded Fuji beneath. There was new china for mother, as well as mink earrings and a tiny mink headband trimmed with a dangling tail. Where in Missouri was that to be worn? But most of all, there were pearls, for all three of Daddy's girls, although I was only in third grade and my sister still a toddler. What wonder to hold the blue velvet box, then open it to reveal the softly glowing treasure within! For my brother, a set of ivory cufflinks carved like scowling devils with "garnets" set for eyes.

Other Christmases seem much like each other, except for the visit of an aunt and uncle all the way from California! Each year meant attending the candlelight service at church, which was always the same, yet always mysterious. How quietly I could sit then.

And afterwards, especially if Daddy had come, too, we would drive through the town to "see the lights," which upon reflection were rather unimaginative displays, but then transformed the small community into a world too vast to drive all the way through. At home would be hot chocolate and the first crack at the pecan puffs and butter cookies Mother had worked on while we were at school. I never cared for the rumballs, but a connoisseur older brother would trade my share of rumballs for fudge.

My first white Christmas was not until I was 19, attending college in the northeastern part of the state. And oh how we wished the snow would stop! Christmas caroling then didn't mean a cheerful ride in the proverbial sleigh, but pushing a Volkswagen out of a drift. Other college Christmases were more fun, like when we had interrupted our Christian carols to learn a Jewish folkdance in deference to an Orthodox sorority sister.

Here, Christmas is most dependent on inner experience for

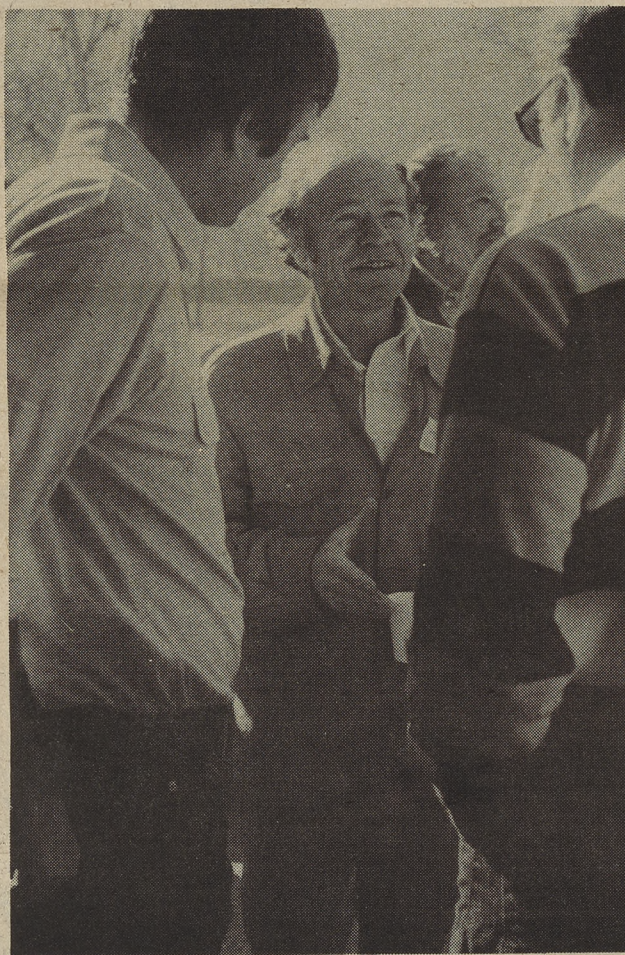
Continued on page 10

Garland Park dedication



Unveiling the new signs at the Garland Ranch Regional Park dedication Saturday was Fifth District Supervisor Sam Farr. General manager Gary Tate created the signs for the park from old wood estimated to be at least a century old. About

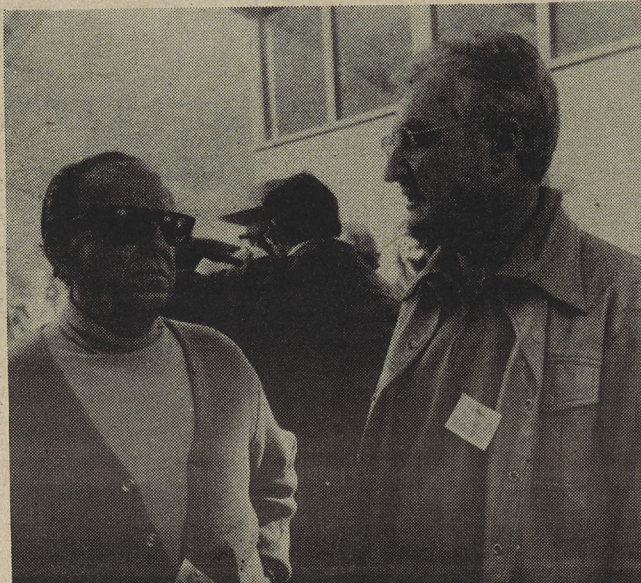
150 people attended the dedication which was prefaced with doughnuts and coffee and followed by equestrian trail rides and pedestrian hikes.



John Sigourney of Carmel Valley, a member of the park district board of directors, shared some of his optimistic thoughts for the park with visitors to the facility Saturday.



Fifth District Supervisor Sam Farr came riding into the dedication ceremony like a ghost of the Valley's Spanish past, wearing a serape from South American and a flopping sombrero, astride the steed Concho.



Dr. Ed Marcucci of Carmel Valley, a member of the Monterey County Planning Commission, exchanges comments about the 541 acre park with Ed DeMars, director of the planning for Monterey County.

carmel valley outlook

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Cliff Butler General Manager
Michael Butowitsch Editor-in-Chief
Leslie Johnson Editor
Joan Medford Advertising Manager
Jeannie Rueter Composing Room Supervisor
Jack Nielsen Pressroom Supervisor
Keith Wilson Circulation Manager

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LOCALLY OPERATED MEMBER



DONREY MEDIA GROUP

School board

Physical education may no longer be required

At its regular meeting in December, the school board took under consideration a proposed change in the high school physical education requirements and approved

a revised version of a board rule change on the preparation of agendas.

High school principal Dan Stevenson presented the board with suggestions for

physical education curriculum which would allow students in grades 11 and 12 to voluntarily enroll in gym classes rather than being mandated to enroll by the district.

The possible change in physical education requirements is the result of legislation which allows individual school districts the option of maintaining required gym classes or instituting a new system of optional P.E. classes for students in the upper two grades or students who are 16 years of age and repeating the 10th grade.

Stevenson admitted that the optional system may affect the physical education department's offerings and may reduce class size in the department initially. He told the board that adverse reaction from the department's faculty had been received, but he felt the change would benefit the school and the department in the long run.

The proposed change in gym requirements was presented as an information item, recommended by the high school's administration, but will not require action until presented to the board at its first meeting in January.

The board adopted at second reading a revised rule on the preparation of agendas. The old board rule

technically allowed any board member to submit an item for an agenda and have that item included automatically as long as it was submitted six days prior to the meeting. The new rule eliminated the time frame and simply says that all board members may submit items for inclusion on an agenda "within a reasonable period of time." The matter had elicited dismay from some audience members at its first reading in November. Board member Elizabeth Bell expressed the fear that the new rule might thwart the ability of board members to place items on an agenda.

In other action the board: —approved at second reading a timeline for course and program approval which establishes scheduled dates for various types of course and program suggestions.

—approved a scope and sequence statement for mathematics (Kindergarten through 8th grades) based upon a scope and sequence published by the Scott-Foresman company. The scope and sequence adopted provides for changes in emphasis at certain grade levels.

—accepted as an information item a report on the district's English as a Second Language program. The program currently has 36 students enrolled and is managed by the speech and language therapists.

—accepted as an information item the proposed addition of two courses to the high school's English department curriculum. The proposed courses, English Honors and Contemporary Fiction, will be presented to the board in January for action. The English Honors course would be offered to freshmen and sophomores identified as mentally gifted minors. The Contemporary Fiction class would be offered to juniors and seniors.

—approved the resignation of Sheila Adams from three of her five high school classes. Mrs. Adams was teaching three mathematics classes as well as two business education classes. She will remain in the district as a part-time teacher.

—approved hiring Mrs. Peggy Borsting as the district's mentally gifted minors coordinator for the remainder of this school year.

Sheriff's reports

Reports of criminal action in Carmel Valley apparently decreased in December from the monthly reports logged in November, according to the Monterey County Sheriff's Department. Among the reports were:

Home burglary: On Dec. 1, Gary Kitt of 26132 Carmel Knolls Dr. reported the theft sometime between Nov. 18 and 30, of a .22 caliber revolver, a .308 Winchester lever action rifle, a .20 gauge double barrel shotgun, and \$1,500 silver coin collection.

Theft at residence: On Dec. 10, Carl E. Levy reported the theft of \$420 of wooden doors, light bulbs and an encyclopedia from a residence at Camp Steffani.

Business burglary: On Dec. 14, Gerald Allen of Rancho Nursery reported the theft of \$2,000 in stereo equipment, plants and plant accessories.

Business burglary: On Dec. 15, Joe

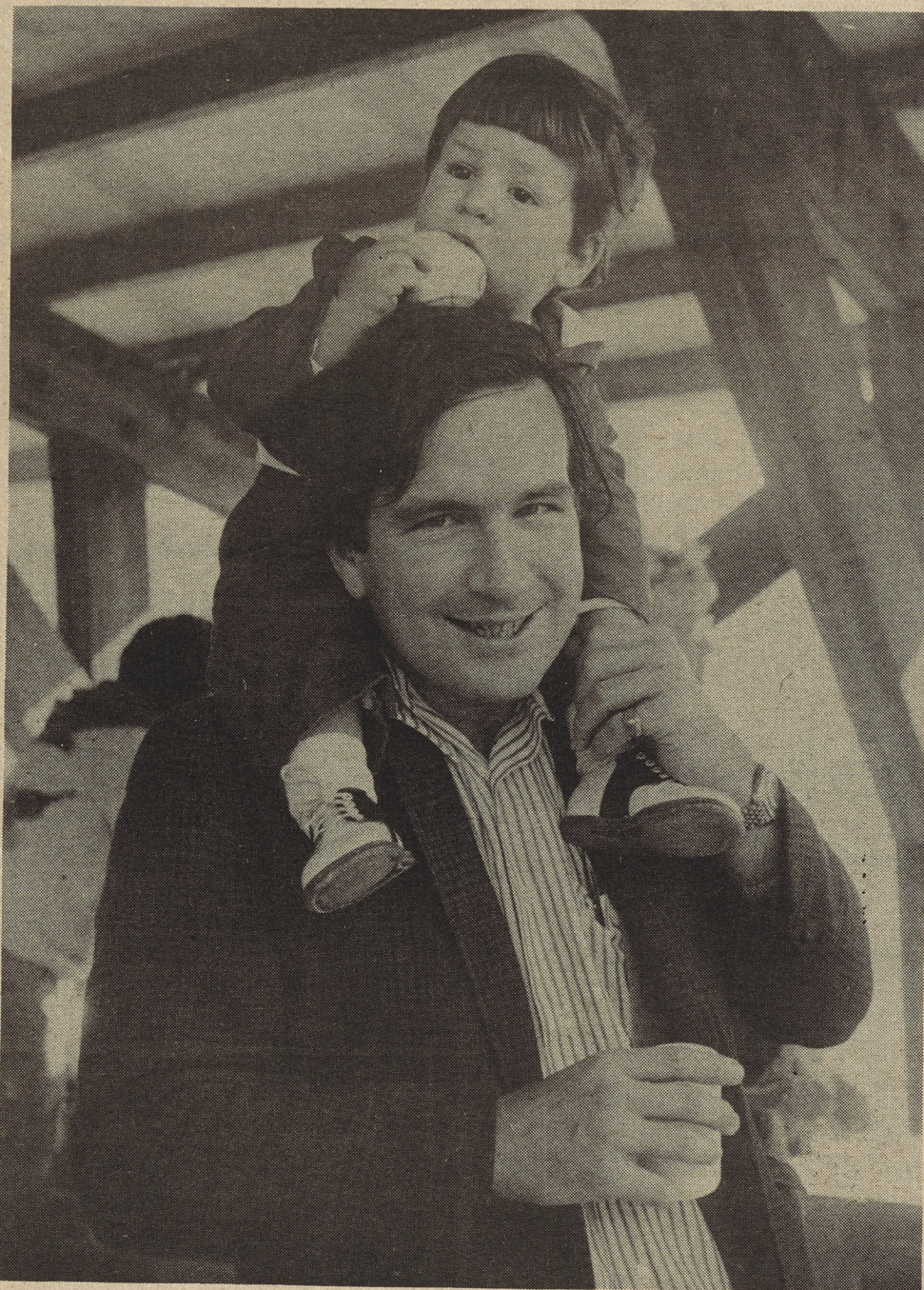
Ricupero of Guiseppe's Workbench reported the theft on Dec. 14 of two rings valued at \$175 from a display case in front of his business on Carmel Valley Road in the village area.

Vandalism: On Dec. 15, Thomas Williams, principal at Carmelo School, reported someone had thrown a rock through the window of room B-2.

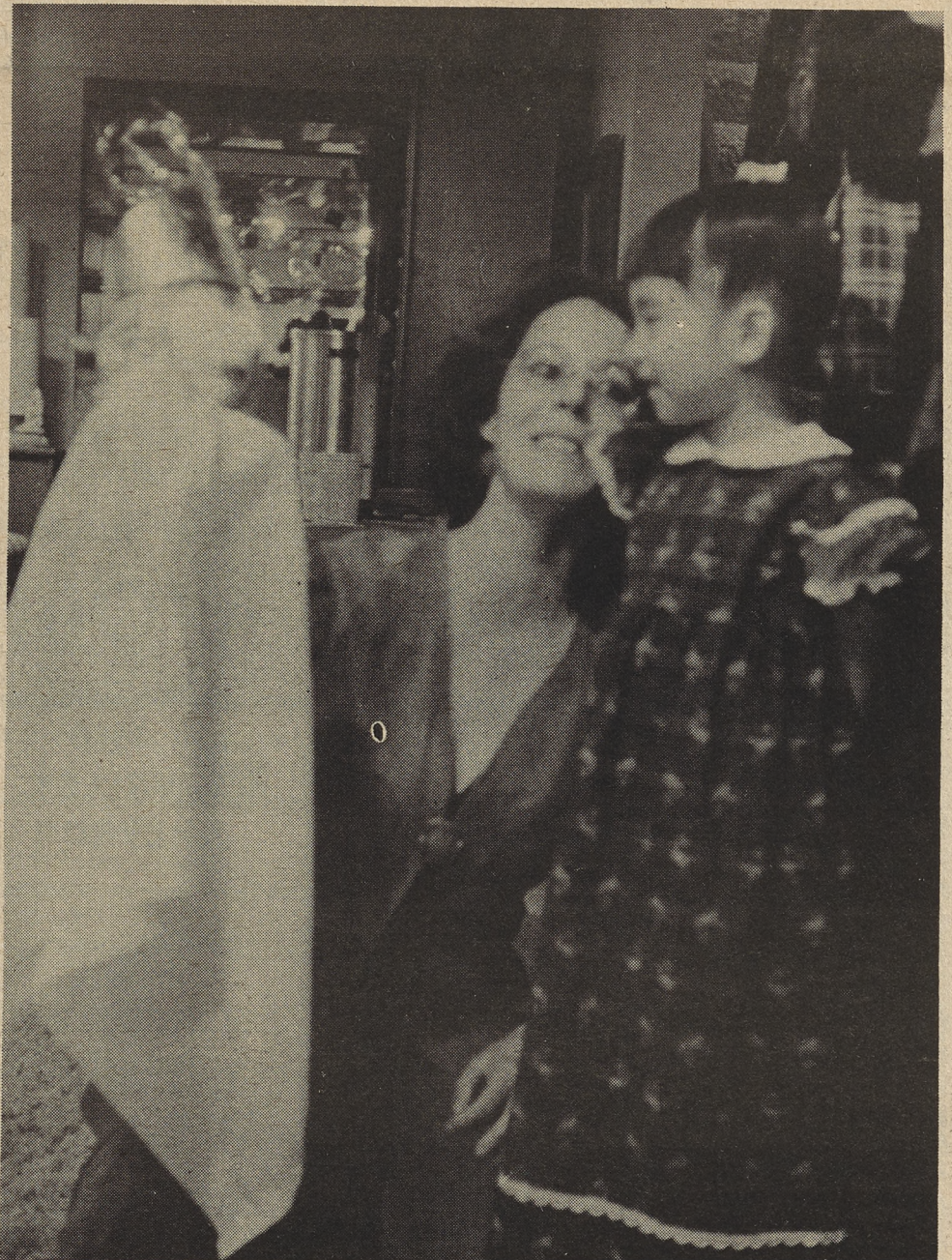
Car theft: On Dec. 16, Adeline King of 117 Ford Road reported the theft of her battery from her car.

Theft at high school: On Dec. 16, Richard Wright of 26065 Rotunda Rd., reported the theft of a front wheel valued at \$80 from his bicycle while it was parked in front of the high school library.

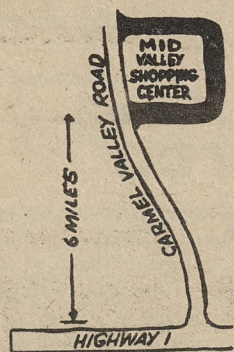
Vandalism: On Dec. 16, Robert Hall of 112 W. Carmel Valley Rd. reported a rental property on Portola Road had had its windows shot out by a B-B gun.



Young Jeff Strathmeyer found a cookie more entertaining than adult conversation when his father, Jeffrey Dennis-Strathmeyer, a candidate for nomination to Bob Nimmo's seat, brought him to the Garland Ranch Regional Park dedication Saturday.



Christmas for music students of Mrs. Roxanna Chew Lee of Carmel Valley meant a party and puppet show by Elizabeth Clements. Above, Ms. Clements introduces Val-Jay Pierson, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Pierson, to the Snow Queen from a Hans Christian Andersen fairy tale.



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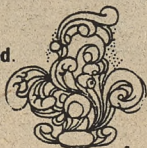
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GREETINGS

At the Yuletide, we especially rejoice in the opportunity to turn from the routine of everyday business and in real sincerity convey our appreciation to our many valued friends. Your favors and good will have made "everyday business" a very special pleasure for us. To all, our wishes for a happy, hearty holiday rich in good old-fashioned joys.

From all of us at the

Carmel Valley Outlook



The Holiday Spirits
Are Great
But NOT
on your clothes!!

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under the oaks and among the cacti

by mildred hattan

Best wishes at Christmas

You'd better watch out, better look to the sky
It's hard to believe another year has gone by
And Santa Claus is coming to town.
Saddle Mountain's tree is blazing good cheer
We missed it during the "black-out" last year
when lights and gas and heat were turned down.
Santa, remember those leaders of community service
(A sharp holly stake to residents impervious!)

For Lion Tom Bordonaro and the "Wine and Roses Ball";

Thelma Lee's Halloween Carnival, it rates best of all.
To George T.C. Smith and photos that please;
To Pat Allen's "Kabuki" and all he achieves.
For the Cancer Crusade, toast John Crivello.
"Skol" Pumpkin-Patch Wolters, a jolly good fellow.
To Carmelo's Van Bibber; to Tom Williams her boss;
Without Von Bergs and Jack Georges, We'd be at a loss.

To Donna and Herb Reuter and their countless hours;
To all Garden Clubbers and their show of flowers.
To "Dasher" Gail Buche, To "Dancer" Patsy Wester;
For diver Robert Horne, whose team champions are "bester."

To Mike Rohan for the Kiwanis Horse Show;
To Sally Swanson's Labor Day Event.
(How the entries did grow!).

To Betty Roth, Sally Witter and their kindergarten charges;
To Lou Gardner, Sam Kelmek, and their special Marges.

Have Officer Tom Pina write "Noel" on each ticket;
A dashing bow tie to dapper David Pickett.
Tidings, Joe Ricupero — a gem among men —
To Warners, Gertrude and Loring, who remember "back when."

To the Heckenlaible foursome, who live up on Flight;
To Carl Naslunds and Ruth Titus sing "Oh Holy Night."

Grease paint for our resident clown, a Stratton named Terry;

String holly berries for David Hudsons, John Jernege and Mary.

Donations to Jean Stekly, who runs the thrift shop.
Happiness Walt Victorine (he's another great cop).
Gift wrap a package for Vera Stokes.
Prosperity to the new businesses in the building called "Oaks."

Crowns for the Kings — Richard and Bill;
To Samoras, Savoldis, Peace and Goodwill.
Hot roasted chestnuts to Kathleen and Bill Wood,
Pat Rowedder, Doris Anderson (all British who've been good).

To accompany Woolfenden's peacocks, a new concertina;
Drape glittering garlands on Moisos arena.
Here's to the Farris — John, Bill, Vic and Sam —
Bring jobs by the score for Contractor Canham.
A Christmas serene for Dr. Paul Tochetti;
Another championship team for Coach Phyllis Crockett.

Warm wishes George Willis and the Los Laureles Lodge;

To An-Jane's Attic, a delightful hodge-podge.
Let the Garland Park Bulls be gentle and sweet —
(or let all the hikers be fast on their feet!).

Joy to Panettas — Carmelo and Tia —
More for Trevinos, Hatch and clan De Maria.
Help Ed Dally build the ball park of our dreams;
Fill 'er up with seasons greetings at Texaco, Chevron and Giems.

Here's to Fran Raymond (she's known as a pillar);

A day surrounded with family for sweet Stella Miller.
A new robe for Hark Paik (we applaude his promotion)

A craft, sea worthy, for Tim Condon to race on the ocean.

To Marge and Dan Taylor and their remarkable putter;

To photog Eileen Dufur and her magical shutter.

To Pat and Dick Parker and their award winner, Rick;

Trim the tree for Toland Douds, Mary Skalyo and Nick.

Bring a sleighful of sunshine to drench our whole Valley;

For George Tooles, Walter Treadwells, Bob Kvenild and Sally.

To the Bearded Builders, whoever they are,

To Clayton Neill, Lois Deal and of course, Mark Starr.

To the UFO spotters — to little red and green men;

If you visit in peace, please come back again.

Bring Louise and Jim Thompson a rare vintage car;
Sing carols Ilbert Tucker, Jack Black and James Sparr.

Thru visions of sugar plums we spy Lyde Mink and Lee;

Hang tinsel on the international chariot of Bob and Alice Wehe.

Recycle those wishes, Linda Gorham and Bill

From Rex White at Princes Camp to Monte Awamleh on the hill.

Car buff Ed McGlochlin, crank up your fliver

And deliver seasons greetings down by the river,.

To Kenneth Heiland, William Taylors, John Conklin and Ty;

Elizabeth Freidenthal, Harwell Dyer, must not pass the Vails by.

May poinsettas burst into blossom for Ruth and Elbert Wade,

More for Archie and Jessie Fleming who live on the Grade.

To Pat and Dick Clarkson, to Nancy and Frank Dice, Lillian and Leon Shappell we wish something nice.

May the Lloyd Swansons find another champion lamb in their pen;

May tennis victories continue for Jane Korver and Ken.

String popcorn and cranberries Linc Libby and Fran

To festoon your tree when you welcome your clan.

A partridge to Ed Footes to accompany their parrot;

Knit booties and shawls for Madeline and Jack Garrett.

To David Morris just back from Africa with his pretty wife, Joan;

Glad you are here for the holidays, a warm welcome home!

Add spice to the punch bowl and offer a toast
To Roger Sherman, Dick McKenzie and Nick Lombardo, Rancho's host.

To Tom McKiernons, John Radons, Ciao and Will Kramer,

May the yule log burn brightly — add one for Doug Thamer.

May Ron Hunter's temperature sign register balmy and fair;

May Dave Stainbrooks and Dick Frankes know never a care.

String a fragrant lei for Dee Aldridge and Jerry;
Greetings John Longs, Edwin Lees, Busicks, Harriet and Larry.

Cordial spirits, Don Middleton, to John Tobias and Elaine



Truly a house of Christmas is the Egon Werdelman home on Los Laureles Grade where the focal point is a seven and one half foot tree trimmed with 400 ornaments handmade by Ann. She was taught by a Navy friend before she and Egon retired in 1970, adding to the collection annually with satin and velvet balls decorated with materials from a hobby shop and recycled jewelry. Numerous donations of her glittering art have gone to the boutique at Natividad Medical Center, the Monterey Peninsula Museum of Art, and other charities.

To Randy Randazzo, Bob Giraudo, to Don and June Payne.

Days of contentment Richard Krueger, Glen Rosenberger and Judy;

Bill Conlan, Pete Danielson, and of course to Frank Moody.

To William Fielo, the American Legion command;

To John Carlin and the boys in the fine Santa Jazz Band.

To the creative Speisers, Imogene and Zane,

To two well known red heads, Charity and Dick Crane.

From Rancho Chupinos to Rancho Don Juan

Spread tidings of joy and remember John Conne.

Roundup good wishes for Ray Hackworth, George Pullman, Cahoons and Sam Jurey.

Jimmie Bell, Roy Forzani, Fred Nason — better hurry.

Hang wedding bells on the tree for Larry Fitzwater and Kay;

Blessings Don Johnson, Jim Brock on this Holy day.

Double the gifts for the twins at the home of Fred Coleman;

Spare candy canes for the traditional tree of Vivian Holman.

Holly wreaths at Wills Fargo placed by Barb and Will Fay

Give a nostalgic aura to this Christmas Day.

Joy to ex-Mayor Lou Haddad who moved to the Valley

To the George Tolans, Dick Hindmans, to Wyatt & Kris Talley.

To Alex Weygers, Dennis Powell to Rudi Marzis all a-bustle

To Kirk Davidsons, Nancy Hogans, Augie Acuna & Mae Brussel.

Top the tree with a star for the Coggeshalls, Fred,

Let Chip Collin's volunteers stay snuggled warm in their beds.

For the swimming Dave Allards, hang up the socks.

For the twins at Fran Hughes, Santa brings building blocks.

To Mr. and Mrs. Ross Gilliland and their new infant, Guy;

Continued on page 10

Hidden Valley ensemble

They've opted

The Hidden Valley Opera Ensemble will open its performances of "The Marriage of Figaro" New Year's Eve with a special gala at the institute, including the opera, dancing and a party. Musical director is Randall Bare; William Francisco is stage director. For information and reservations for this and other performances of the season, call 659-3115.

By LESLIE JOHNSON

"Please don't start the article out 'Ex-cowgirl becomes opera star,' like they did in Stuttgart," pleads Sue Gorenium. In between hurried mouthfuls of an evening meal, the members of the Hidden Valley Opera Ensemble talk about how they arrived at this juncture in their musical careers together.

"I was pounding nails on the roof and heard they needed another singer, so I came down," reports one member of the current production "The Marriage of Figaro." Who told him? "The garbage man," the company laughs.

John Giger, a member of the ensemble, was considering a career in athletics before opting for opera instead. Mary Hinrichs began with musical comedy, then switched to opera after seeing a performance of "Cosi Fan Tutte."

Pamela Hicks had musical comedy in mind when she started college, too. "But at my school, if you wanted to

study voice, you studied classically. When I was given an aria to learn, I was just thrilled at what I could do with it," she says. Miss Hicks has since dropped out of college to join the opera ensemble.

Reg Houston pulls some of the comment together, "For all of us, it was a teacher or mentor or someone being at the right place at the right time to encourage us to go into opera."

It is difficult for the company members to express why they're doing opera. Their rehearsal schedule runs practically from dawn to the early hours of the morning. When they're not blocking a scene or having a music only run-through, they're in class—Italian, dance, acting, management for the artist. With the hectic schedule, they are eager to finish the meal, and the discussion, and catch a bit of rest before the next round of rehearsal begins.

Why work so hard? Why not do something musically that is less demanding physically and emotionally?

Miss Hicks responds, "It sounds like a cliché, but it's because we love it. The total combination of theatre and music is such a challenge, but when you start accomplishing something the feeling of success is, here comes another cliché, its own reward."

The principals of the ensemble, gathered under a grant which provides room and board and hopefully a

stipend, will be with Hidden Valley only a year.

Houston explains, "That's the whole purpose of something like this—give us an intense period of study and performance, and then we must prepare ourselves to move on to something else."

What that something else will be is highly indefinite. The members of the troupe may audition for one of the several regional opera companies which are gaining support, or for a lesser position with a larger company.

Dean Peter Meckle says that no one is really sure why opera's popularity is on the rise. "It may be simply because it is becoming more accessible. Performances in English are helping opera a great deal, as are more modern staging techniques," he says.

One sure indication of new-found audiences is the percentage of ticket sales each season, Meckle says. In most companies, the budget is dependent on at least 50 per cent support from subscription, but must find the other half elsewhere.

While the Met is in financial difficulty in the East, the San Francisco Opera has near sell-out seasons with ticket sales underwriting up to 60 per cent of the costs. One advantage the San Francisco company has is that its stage and technical equipment are municipally provided, and part of its operational costs underwritten by a portion of

the city's re-

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More c making donations ssembles, M some grant such as th dowment fo has made Hidden Val-

With r operas, yo such as th ensemble (have a gre for study.

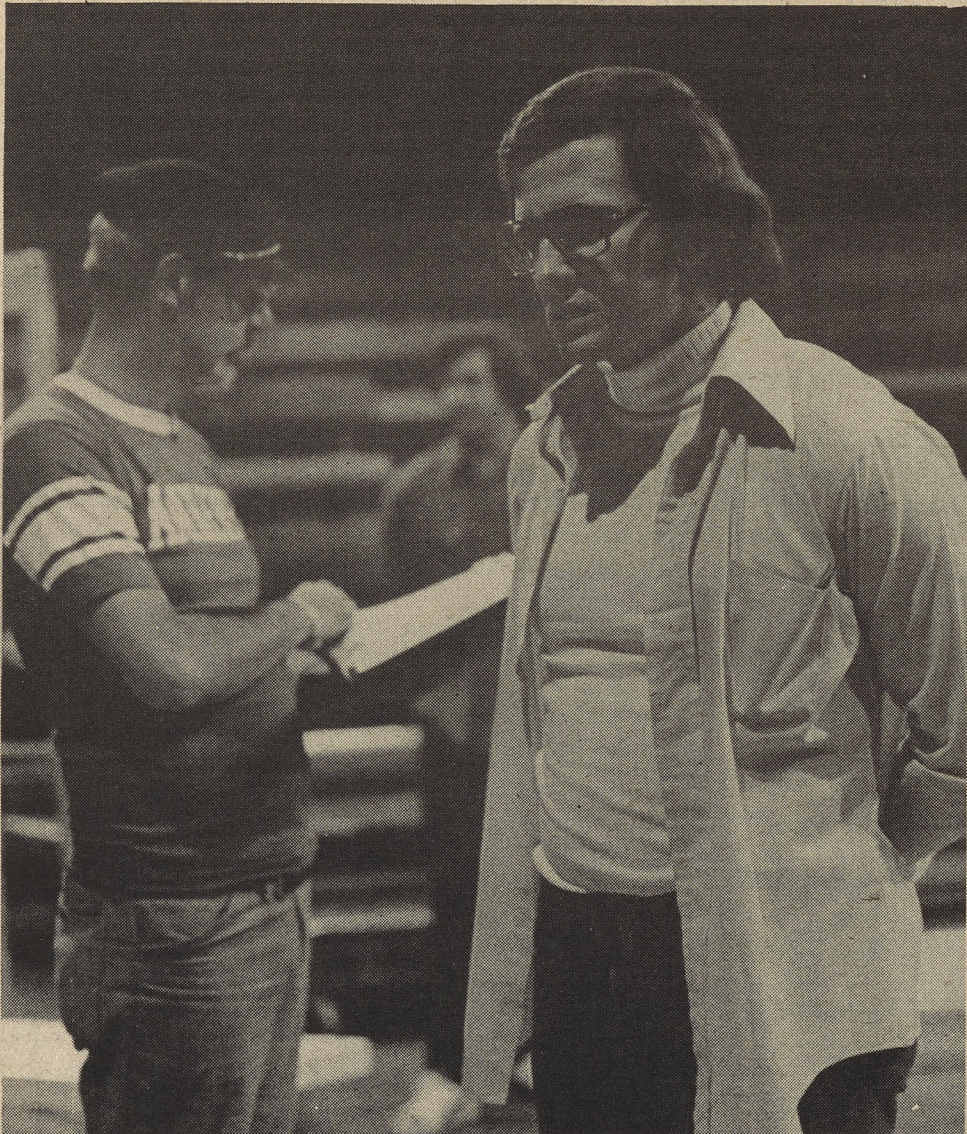
"It used t to break opera was t little while Europe and with some opera hous America as the famous That's r anymore,"

Joining Randall Ba time is William Fr found wor ensemble perience fo as for the first had t proach to student gro professional accustomed and in San

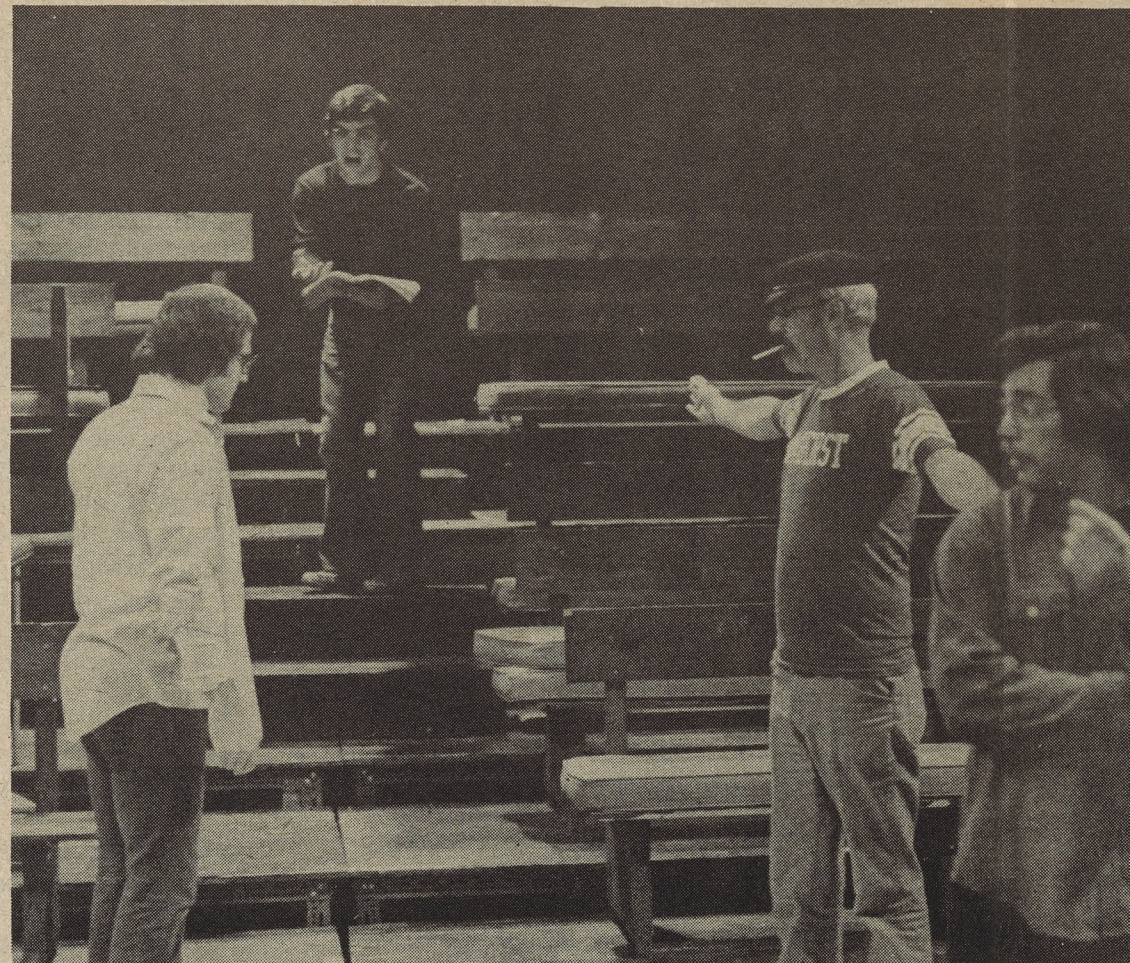
"When I short amou before we public with my first th God, we can decided we moved th



Randall Bare, musical director, interrupts a blocking rehearsal where specific movement is charted to elicit a desired nuance from Pamela Hicks, center, and Sue Gorenium. Seated is Reg Houston.



John Giger, right, broods in his role as the count. Stage director William Francisco, left, says the performers are "as interested in acting well as singing well." He continues, "We're avoiding some of the stodgy things that can happen in opera. The singers don't move unless there's a reason for them to, and they're controlling some of the poses they've been striking."



Stage director William Francisco says he sometimes like a traffic cop when blocking some scenes, as John Giger, from left, John Trout, and Reg Houston.

opted for opera

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the city's room tax. The Met has its own facilities to keep up in the course of a season.

More companies are making substantial donations to opera ensembles, Meckle says, and some grants are available, such as the National Endowment for the Arts which has made possible the Hidden Valley ensemble.

With more regional operas, young performers such as the Hidden Valley ensemble (average age 26) have a greater opportunity for study.

"It used to be the only way to break into American opera was to study here for a little while, ship over to Europe and secure a position with some little German opera house, and return to America as Miss So-and-So, the famous European singer. That's not necessary anymore," Meckle says.

Joining music director Randall Bare for the first time is stage director William Francisco, who has found working with the ensemble a learning experience for himself as well as for the performers. He first had to tailor his approach to working with a student group, instead of the professionals he has become accustomed to in New York and in San Francisco.

"When I found out the short amount of time we had before we came before the public with a performance, my first thought was 'My God, we can't do it!' Then I decided we could, if I just moved the performers

around, told them exactly where to stand, when to lift their arms, when to put them down. I figured we could get that memorized, rehearse it over and over again until it was really polished, and come up with the production we were looking for," Francisco says.

"But I knew that really wasn't going to accomplish what we set out to. Sure, it would have been a performance, but it wouldn't have meant anything in terms of learning for the singers," he says.

"So, for the most part, we sit down and try to translate the action in the opera to contemporary terms of character to work on movement and reactions."

"Of course, when you've got the entire ensemble on stage at once, particularly with this small stage, there are times when you have to say 'You stand here, you stand here, and don't move!'" Francisco says.

Although the performance will be sung in English, it will be costumed traditionally. "I would never do an opera like this in contemporary dress. How can you perform this rich music in blue jeans and expect the audience to accept it?" Francisco asks.

The key to this performance is "accessibility," Francisco says. "The intimate surroundings and closeness of the audience mean we have to develop the characters more. We want the audience to be able to see the wheels turning," he says.

With lyrics in English and the close proximity of performers to audience paired with detailed character development over a period of weeks, Francisco is optimistic his goal can be achieved.

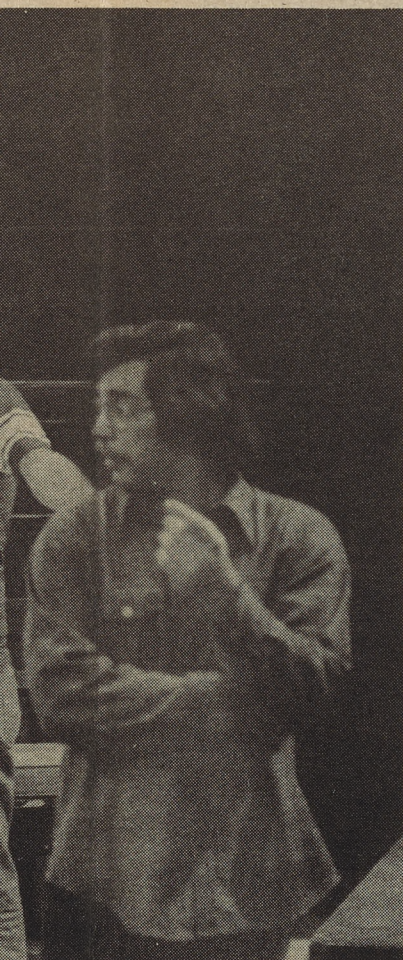
Few of the problems he anticipated with the young troupe have materialized, Francisco says. "Because some of them had performed together before, and with another director, I expected there to be some cliquishness," he says. "But there's been none of that. We simply started from the beginning."

Because each of the performers has been in other productions of the opera, Francisco expected comments about, "That's not the way we did it in Dallas."

They are non-existent, however. "All of the performers are completely willing to use a different approach than what they have used before. If they don't agree with something I've said, they don't agree for carefully thought out personal reasons, not simply because they never did it that way before," he continues.

Francisco also hands out laurels to Randall Bare, the music director. "You know, working with this opera is a lot like working with a Shakespeare play. You have no idea what is supposed to be going on up on the stage. There are few clues about movement. But Randy has

Continued on page 10



Mary Hinrichs, a member of the Hidden Valley Opera Ensemble, observes a rehearsal while keeping track of the score. "The Marriage of Figaro" will be sung in English, but performed in traditional dress.

Francisco says he sometimes feels like he's watching some scenes, as here with Trout, and Reg Houston.

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Barbara

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The Christmases of childhood stay with you for a long time. I grew up in Michigan where we dreamed of — and frequently got — white Christmases. We were short on one horse sleighs but long on snow to go dashing through. I truly believed in Flexible Flyers for Christmas afternoon and model railroad displays with cotton around the tracks. Little bare twigs glued into the cotton represented real trees. Christmas cards all had glittery frost glued over the white parts.

In California, it just didn't seem like Christmas without the hope of snow. The weather and geography here are more in keeping with the first Christmas, though. An Israeli folksinger visiting here in Carmel Valley told me that Israel is much more like parts of California than it is like Michigan. There are barren places and there are mountains where tall trees grow. Crops are irrigated. In the winter it rains instead of snowing.

Therefore, when I go out to visit the horses on Christmas Eve, I like to think I am seeing something of what the first Christmas may have been like. In my stable I may see what Mary saw in hers: The frosty night warmed by animal heat, the sound of chewing, the fresh smell of this year's hay.

I like to go to the stable on Christmas Eve. Legend tells that between the first and twelfth strokes of midnight, the animals are given the gift of speech. With their masters they may praise Him who was born in a stable.

Speech they may have, but it isn't English. Carrots they may certainly have. I always bring goodies on Christmas Eve. Apples, dates, sugar. One year I baked oatmeal cookies especially for the stable-dwellers and for passing reindeer-drivers.

To be in rural California allows you to feel closer to the first Christmas than in the rest of America. To be a woman besides just might give you an even greater opportunity to meditate on a Christmas in the stable.

On my way from being somebody's child to becoming somebody's mommy, I suffered through two winter pregnancies. No, suffering isn't the right word. Some of it was rather fun and one or two moments were quite glorious. But it is an inconvenient time to watch one's diet, take regular exercise, and to brood that marriage isn't all horsing around.

I gave up riding by Halloween for fear there'd be a baby in my stocking at Christmastime. I didn't want to light any December stars. We were aiming for the first



WILL SOMEONE TELL THOSE ANGELS NOT TO SING SO LOUD... MY WIFE NEEDS HER REST.

baby of the New Year and winning all those prizes the merchants donate. (Almost made it too. There I was in Community Hospital right along with all those gals who celebrate New Year's Eve by drinking castor oil instead of champagne.)

I waddled to Christmas Eve services to occupy enough pew space for two, even though I didn't have a prayer of a chance of kneeling. It had been weeks since I could get close enough to the pew in front to use a kneeler.

The words of the anthem seemed to be directed at me: "For Unto Us A Child Is Given." I sighed, "If anyone made me ride to Bethlehem on a donkey tonight, I'd probably have the baby right there."

Christmas isn't about dashing through the snow. It isn't about Rudolph the Rednosed Reindeer or even about red and green paper chains. It's about obstetrics.

Having observed modern obstetrics in action, I'm not at all sure that the stable in Bethlehem was all that bad a place for Mary's confinement.

Mary's husband was a carpenter, a hardworking man who probably wanted his supper ready on time. By being away from home for the baby's birth, an unusual circumstance in those times, Mary was away from having to cope with household routine when she wasn't quite up to it. This was the more usual pattern of a woman's life, even if you had friends or relatives to help. Us old wives aren't expecting much help from Joseph who simply hadn't been married long enough to be well broken in.

A husband-assisted childbirth though — that's very modern! Helps to cement subsequent family relationships. The Holy Family was blessed not only by their Child but by the

manner of His birth.

Mary's delivery room did not smell of alcohol and chemicals. She did not have to lie uncomfortably on her back on a hard table because some doctor said that was the best position. Mary had sweet smelling grass hay — not alfalfa with all the sticks in it. The hay had been cut by hand which meant that the mowers probably did not include the big weeds. Mary's Wise Men did not wear rubber gloves or fatuous expressions.

On my way to an embarrassing X-Ray, how I prayed for the privacy of a dark stable in a town where no one knew me.

On the other hand Mary had to put up with all those shepherds dropping in after her labors were over and she had earned a rest. And I'll bet no one brought her a chocolate milkshake. Little things like that the maternity ward handles better than your average stable.

Continued on page 10

Bob Hufford wants Middle School to be a positive place

By IRENE GAASCH

Since Carmel Middle School district covers an area of 600 square miles, including areas as diverse as upper Carmel Valley and the Big Sur coast line, Middle School's new principal, Bob Hufford, decided that the best way for him to start his term here was with a survey of the community.

"We've had a 50 per cent return on our survey," Hufford related and added, "This is very good when you consider that there were over 100 questions and that they were sent home with the students in order for us to save on mailing costs."

The survey covers all aspects of the educational system at Middle School and the questions were the result of many hours of work by the parent club, the parent advisory board and Hufford and his staff.

"We ended up with four main categories of questions," Hufford said noting that the areas of interest covered in the questionnaire were questions relating to curriculum, scheduling, school environment, including discipline and counseling, and a catch-all category entitled, home and school relations. Results from the survey will be tabulated in January and mailed to all Middle School parents.

An avid backpacker and out-door person, Hufford and his family were lured to Carmel by the environment.

"San Jose is becoming a small L.A., and we couldn't take the congestion," he said. "So rather than choosing a school district, we (his wife Darla and two sons) were looking for an area."

"Doesn't it ever warm-up here?" Hufford asked noting that he had just come in from bus duty, and so far the major adjustment he and his family were having to make was getting used to the ever-present chill in the Peninsula's climate. "But we really like it here, and anytime we feel cold, we take another look at our surroundings, and it's all worth it."

Morning bus duty and noon lunch duty are a regular part of Hufford's schedule. "This is a time when I can have some direct contact with my

students. It's a chance for conversation on a one-to-one basis out of the confines of my office, which makes me seem so official," he said.

Hufford is not new to the job of school administrator, having served in the Moreland school district, near San Jose for the past nine years. Though he began as an elementary principal, and served four years as a junior high principal, he spent his last four years as a high school principal in the Cupertino area.

"But every school is different, and in the first year at a new school, you inherit a program," Hufford said, indicating that he had made few changes in the Middle School program since the beginning of the year.

"In my opinion, this age group is hard on the parents. It is one of moodiness and peer opinion is of the utmost importance. It's a time of change and adjustment and the school curriculum must be diversified if we are going to hold the interest of our students," Hufford said.

"Not only must we have variety in the type of courses we offer; but the individual teacher must have variety in his 55-minute class," Hufford said, and noted that he and his staff have prepared a course descriptions booklet that parents and students could use in choosing classes. "We will also use the booklet for our incoming 6th graders and hope that this will make their change from the elementary school system easier," he said. Most of the sixth graders really liked moving from classroom to classroom with different teachers each period, he added.

"It's the parents that have to adjust to this part of the schedule. All of a sudden they don't have one teacher who can give them all the information, and students this age don't always share school information with their parents; so, we have parents who are wondering what is going on here," Hufford said, pointing out that parent input is what he hopes to gain from the survey.

"In the spring, we will do a student survey and with the information from the two surveys, we will make whatever adjustments in our schedule that seem necessary," Hufford said.

Most responses had been favorable, he said, and parents wanted a continuation of the structured scheduling that Middle School has. Currently a student has only one elective course a day unless he signs up for extra-curricular courses that are taught before and after school.

Since many Middle School students ride buses that pick them up as early as 6:30 a.m., Hufford hopes to have more elective courses offered during the regular school day. It is his feeling that a school be responsive to the needs of the students as well as parents.

In Hufford's opinion, home and school environment must be homogenous for the students to succeed, and recognizing the variety of home environments in Middle School's 600-square-mile district is going to mean more variety in the kinds of classes offered and the way these classes will be presented.

Indicating that he would not change the tone of Middle School, which he describes as "sound, strict discipline with a solid academic program," Hufford said he

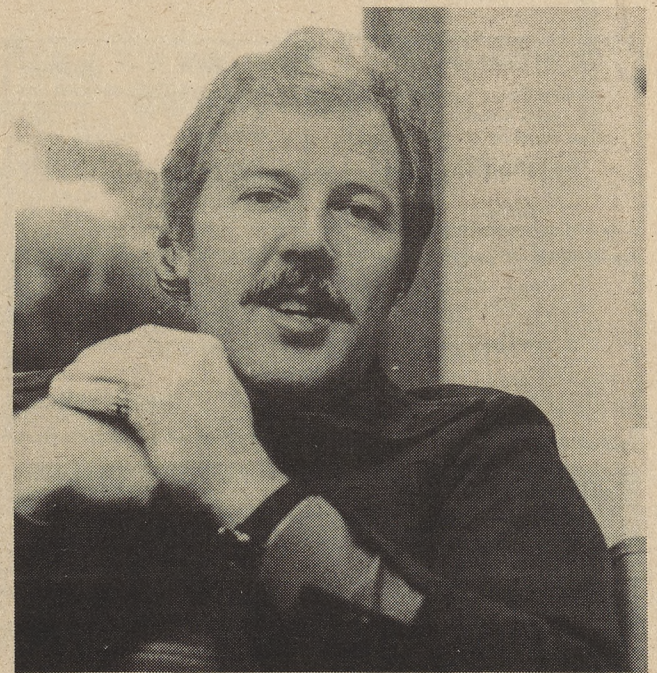
felt the school program could include a self-contained classroom situation for those students who did not like the departmentalized schedules.

"With the students from the entire economic and social spectrum, we must have more flexibility in our program to give the students and parents what is needed," Hufford said. He feels that the results from the student and parent survey will show this need.

"It is my philosophy that people support action, even if they don't necessarily agree with it. In order for a school to be responsive," Hufford continued, "it has to be aware of the constant change that occurs in day-to-day living. You don't just maintain, you must grow."

Noting that parents here are supportive, Hufford said he has been pleased with the parent meetings he has been having and with the student response to school activities.

"All we have to do is keep open lines of communication, which I know is easier said than done,"



MIDDLE SCHOOL'S new principal, Bob Hufford.

Hufford said. But he feels Middle School has all that is needed to keep parent-student-faculty communications open with its enthusiastic staff, basically motivated students and interested parents.

"I want Middle School to continue to be a positive place, and one way my staff and I intend to do this is to recognize the good in an individual or a situation, and to reinforce this good," he said.

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Sunday, Dec. 28 is the date set for the Monterey Bay Panhellenic Christmas Social — at the Carmel Valley home of George and Lois Toole. The Toole's have decorated their entire home for this festive occasion which is a benefit for the Club's scholarship program. Mrs. Robert Peterson, president of Panhellenic, will assist in greeting guests at the door and more information may be obtained by calling Maria Hilton, 372-5729, or Lorraine Finnigan, 372-8913.

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The Tantamount opens 1976 with the Oscar winning comedy, "Born Yesterday" starring Judy Holiday and William Holden. The movie will be shown Jan. 2 and 3 at 8:40 p.m. at the theatre on Middle Canyon Rd. in Carmel Valley.

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May Frank Catalano find clear skies in Spain. May Julie Power's charity double their gain.

It's difficult to include everyone in this prose —

Can't forget Howard Scheids, Jim Poulous and Rose. To the gang up at Comsat; to the Tularcitos — Smith, Phil,

To the Suttons, the Duttons, to Vera Meyer and Bill.

Swing by the Brobergs, Alice and John,

By the Webers, Leo — Myrna and Don.

To Dormody, Huebner ring out the chimes —

For Good Scout Paul Rembert, recall happy times.

Here's to the Powers, Ralph, Rick and Bill.

To the Covells, Earl Bates, to Kerfoots on the hill.

Roll up the curtain, "Magic Carpet" A warm welcome back.

Something ultra chic for Mary Laird to tuck in the pack.

Plum pudding for the Walsh domain ruled by Kevin & Phyl,

Save some for the Bennetts and the Bresks on the hill.

Here's my personal greeting from Christmases past,

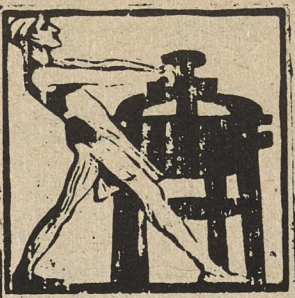
May the true meaning of the holiday throughout the year last:

"I gathered good wishes And tucked them away To send to you On this Christmas Day

May you find deep contentment— Friendships lasting and true—

Peace and blessings of the season, to each and everyone of you."

Mildred Hattan



More editor's note

sustenance. Instead of watching overhanging clouds and praying for snow, I park on the grade and watch the afternoon fog dance its way up the Valley like the dragon in a Chinese New Year's celebration. Late at night, the lighted tree on Saddle Mountain, a colorful beacon on a darkened hillside, brings carols welling in an unpracticed throat as I hurry home from yet another meeting. A Christmas parade, a kindergarten festival of lights, holiday invitations from solicitous people afraid someone else will have to spend Christmas alone, are part of a Carmel Valley Christmas. Good friends are the hallmark of a good year.

More opera

been more than helpful about that," Francisco says.

"Unlike some musical directors I've known who could care less about what goes on on stage, Randy watches carefully what's happening. There are many occasions when he's seen some difficulty we've had in blocking and will suggest how a move should be made from clues in the music. Or I can go to him and say 'Look, I've got to move them sometime, but I don't know where' and he'll have it somewhere in the score that's perfect," Francisco continues.

With the dinner break over, Francisco, too, is on his way to rehearsal. With the company moving into the final stages of rehearsal, there is little time to spare. But somewhere they will work in time to carol at the

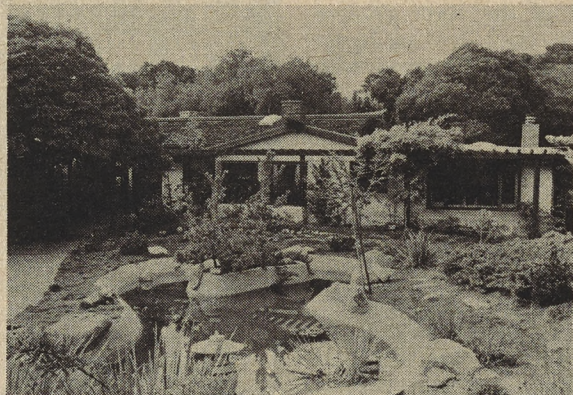
homes of some special patrons—and clean the dorms—and help pick up after meals—and work in a little extra practice on their own.

More feedbag

Yes, we still wrap babies in swaddling clothes, although we now call them receiving blankets. The tight wrap reassures the newborn whose existence up to now has been tightly confined. Laying Him in a manger was a clever idea to protect him from drafts.

I'm forced to the conclusion that in spite of inconveniences, Someone managed the whole Nativity quite well. Merry Christmas to us all.

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ALUMINUM PLATES, 23 x 35... used for printing. Great as insulators, metal guards, roofing, etc. 30 cents each or 50 for \$12.00. Carmel Valley Outlook, Mid Valley Shopping Center, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 9-4. All sales Cash.

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FIELD INFORMATION AND REFERRAL AIDES

Social Service Agency working with older adults seeks to employ four Field Information and Referral Aides:

South Monterey County — full time
Salinas area — three-fourths time
Monterey area — three-fourths time
North Monterey County — half time

(Applications of Senior Citizens welcomed.)

Aides will represent the Agency in above areas; provide information, and make referrals for older adults with follow-up; maintain close contact with local media, agencies, and governmental bodies; support area senior conferences; have scheduled periods in Senior Centers, and attend meetings of senior organizations. Spanish-speaking ability desirable, but not required. Send resume and salary history by January 7th to Box G-1, Carmel, Ca. 93921.

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TURQUOISE, OPAL, GEMSTONES, jewelry, silver beads, etc. Carmel Valley Plaza Linda — "Patrick." 659-4722.

Wanted

WANTED: LOCAL COLLECTOR will pay cash for stamp collections 375-2018.

UPRIGHT PIANO WANTED — moderate price, for two music students. 624-9015.

Vacation Rentals

WE HAVE FURNISHED HOMES available by the week or month — Lincoln Green Cottages by the week or day. Barbara Wermuth, Carmel Realty, 624-6482.

VACATION RENTALS, PROPERTY management. Ione Miller, San Carlos Agency, Box 4118, 624-2510 or 624-3846.

OCEAN PINES CONDOMINIUMS — 2 bedroom, 2 bath. \$650. or short-term. North 17 Mile Drive and Ocean Pine Lane. Call for an appointment 11-4, 625-1400.

For Rent Commercial

CARMEL RANCHO BOULEVARD: New office building. Available in January 1976. For leasing information, call Mr. Jennings: 624-5333.

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DOWNTOWN CARMEL: SHOP or office space, street level, 900 sq. ft. 624-9541 or 624-5412.

For Rent

TWO DELUXE FURNISHED beach houses for rent. By week or month, one with swimming pool. 624-2334.

STONE, POST & FLOWER home for rent in sunny Carmel Valley. Duplex units available in the Village. \$400-month. Call 659-2247.

FURNISHED SHORT-TERM rentals, apartments and rooms, monthly or weekly. Cable TV and heated pool. Blue Sky Lodge in sunny Carmel Valley. 659-9980.

RENT OR BUY — on the Rent Purchase Plan. Stone, Post & Flower homes are available in several locations from \$400 monthly. Call us at 659-2247 for an appointment.

SMALL LIVING QUARTERS for adult working person in Carmel Valley. 659-2026.

CARMEL. NEW LUXURIOUS 2 bedroom plus den apartment. 2 baths, large dining room area, ultra modern kitchen, wood burning fireplace. Sweeping ocean view. Elevator. Laundry. Security locks. Close to shops. No children or pets. \$625 per month on years lease. Phone 624-5482 or 375-8952.

CARMEL VALLEY VILLAGE: 1 bedroom apartment available now. \$215. Studio apartment available December 15. \$175. 659-4474.

AVAILABLE JANUARY 1 — two bedroom south of Ocean, level walk to town. \$325 unfurnished. 624-1108.

CHARMING CARMEL HOUSE — 2 bedroom, adults, no pets. Fireplace, furnished, appliances, detached workroom. \$385. Available January. Call owner (415) 968-6978 for appointment.

FOR RENT: CARMEL 3 bedroom, 2 bath home on Cul De Sac. \$400 monthly. Vince Bramlet agent. 625-1343.

AUTHENTIC — CHARMING CARMEL cottage. Walk to town. \$55,000. Also — Pebble Beach 4 plus bedrooms. Sunbelt. 624-9717 or 624-5061.

RANCHO CERRITOS MOBILE HOME park, Santa Cruz County's newest luxury adult park. Models on display. Come see how wonderful mobile home living can really be. Corner of Green Valley and Main, Watsonville. Telephone 722-5391.

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Performances solid in studio's 'CB'

By LESLIE JOHNSON

If "Ready When You Are, CB" doesn't glitter as much as some of the Studio's past productions, it is still an evening of solid entertainment. There's no deep meaning in this play, but there are some chuckles and a glimpse at a different

lifestyle than ours.

Annie is an actress; at least, she has the potential to be an actress, if auditions didn't petrify her so. In order to survive financially, she secured a rent controlled apartment which she subleases at a neat profit.

Enter Jonas, a B movie actor nearing the point one

begins to wane, tired of the B movie grind, fleeing from the set of "God of Love," aided and abetted by Felicia, an alcoholic actress friend from his salad days.

What more perfect place to hide from process servers than Annie's apartment, reasons Felicia. All the more convenient to resume a long faded romance. Since Annie must stay in residence (Jonas sleepwalks, you know), it is only natural other romances are beginning to bloom.

Add a workhorse mother who still calls Felicia her loathed Florence Grazioli and remembers when Jonas

was Seymour Katzenberg, and thereby hangs a tale.

In her first Studio performance, Jeannine Lemay is captivating as Annie. She shows us a personality as hard as nails on one hand but entirely vulnerable to the blows of reality on the other. The practicality she shows as landlady are made by Miss Lemay entirely consistent with her yielding to the romantic advances of Jonas.

Peter Magee is interesting in the role of Jonas. Although he appears a bit too young to be the aging star we're expecting, there is that air about him that adds

believability to his performance. He plays the role somewhat in the manner of "Love American Style," which is not necessarily a deprecatory remark.

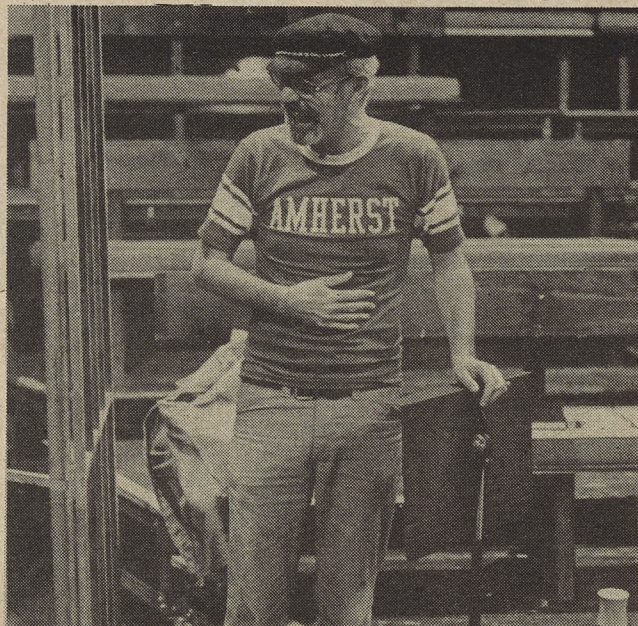
What a joy to see Toni Field on stage again, this time as the eccentric, alcoholic, but employed Felicia. Her innuendo is controlled and the poses she strikes are impressive.

Betty Fowlston makes a brief appearance as Sadie, Jonas' mother, who is a caricature of a Jewish mother. Ms. Fowlston is careful not to overplay, and her presence is effective.

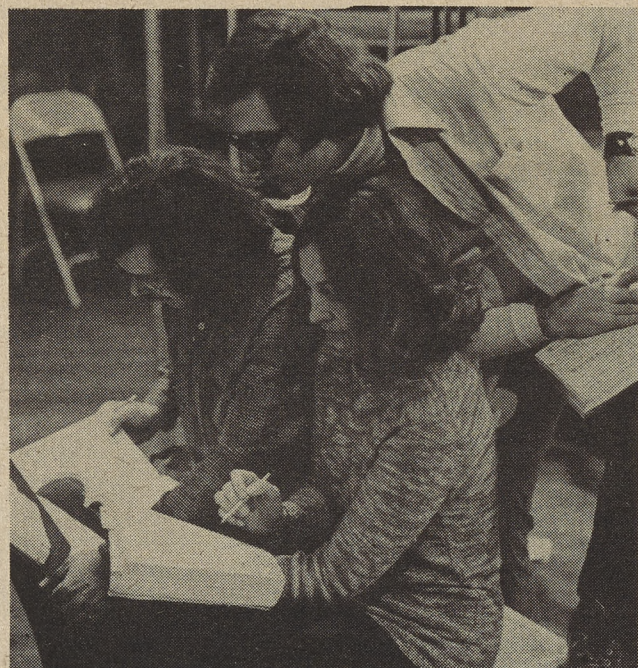
A few words about the set.

It is simply not as detailed, therefore not as effective in this small theatre, as most Studio sets we have seen. It would also be helpful if the countertop for the kitchen were lowered another six to eight inches, allowing us the benefit of seeing what the actors are doing with their hands.

A good evening of comedy (Timing was nearly perfect in the scene where landlady and tenant battle with the lights for two-fold reasons.), "Ready When You Are, CB" is an excellent opportunity for local residents to enjoy the intimate surroundings of the Studio Theatre.



STAGE DIRECTOR William Francisco shares a laugh with the cast during a blocking rehearsal of "The Marriage of Figaro" which opens the Hidden Valley Opera Ensemble season on New Year's Eve.



REVISING ENGLISH SCORES for the opera "The Marriage of Figaro" are principal players, from left, Reg Huston, who sings the title role, John Giger, who portrays the Count, and Sue Gorenjuc, who will sing the part of the Contessaa.

Huth exhibits at library

The work of Marta Huth, of Carmel, is featured at Harrison Memorial Library during the month of December in the display case in the main reading room. Both visitors and residents are invited to the library to see this exhibit.

Mrs. Huth's "eglonise" paintings (i.e., reverse on glass or plastic) have been shown in many exhibitions throughout the United States. Born in Munich, Germany, Marta Huth came to this country in 1940. She is listed in Who's Who in

American Art, and is represented at the City

These paintings will be on display at Harrison Memorial Library throughout the month of December, according to Anna Binikos, Reference Librarian, who arranges for the displays.

Museum in Munich. She is also co-editor of "Baroness von Riedesel and the American Revolution," Chapel Hill, 1965.

The basic method of this type of painting, an early folk art, has remained unchanged since Roman times.

About our new distribution...

The Carmel Valley Outlook is now distributed on a voluntary pay system in the following manner:

Home delivery Thursday afternoons is being made by carriers where possible and in other areas by auto routes. The circulation area receiving the Carmel Valley Outlook in this manner is between Highway 1 and ending at the Star Route beyond Carmel Valley Village. (Readers in the Star route can pick up the Outlook at Cachagua Store and Rex's Bar at Princes Camp.)

Carriers will collect for home delivery on a monthly basis starting Feb. 1. Paying the carrier is strictly voluntary... each carrier keeps all money he collects.

Readers served by Auto Routes will receive one annual voluntary bill.

Paid subscriptions are still accepted for mail delivery. \$8.80 annual rate.

In addition to home and mailout delivery, the Outlook will be distributed free throughout stores in the Village, Mid Valley Center, Carmel Rancho Center and Carmel Center.

We hope to better serve the Valley residents and valley advertisers with our new distribution.

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